

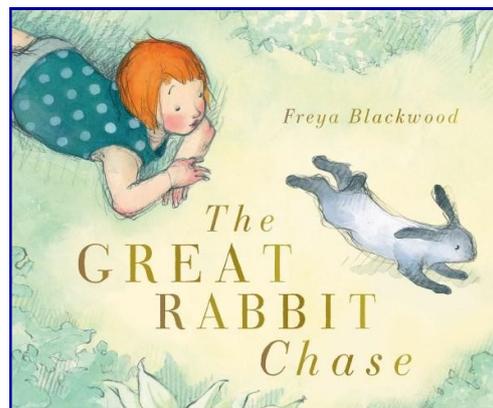
The Great Rabbit Chase

By Freya Blackwood

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Gumboots is a beautiful pet rabbit, but he likes to escape. A story that celebrates what it means to live in a community and a reminder that life is full of surprises.



Themes:

- Animals
- Family
- Community

Discussion Questions:

- The Mum in the story went to buy gumboots but came home with a rabbit. How do you think this happened? Has something like this ever happened to you or someone you know?
- Do you own or have you ever had a rabbit as a pet? If so, does it or did it get into mischief like Gumboots? Did it ever try to escape?
- How did the girl in the story feel when she couldn't find Gumboots?
- Do you think this is how you would react if you lost a pet?
- Why do you think the neighbourhood ended up chasing after Gumboots?
- Discuss the concept of 'community spirit' and come up with examples of it. You may like to think of things that have happened in your school or within your family.
- Think about your own neighbourhood. If your pet escaped to a local park, make a list or draw a picture of all the landmarks that it might cross to get there.
- What were some of the jobs that the people helping to look for Gumboots did?
- How many little 'surprises' were waiting for everyone at the park?
- Do you think that all the new baby rabbits will cause mischief too?

Activities:

- Freya Blackwood has a very unique illustration style. Choose your favourite scene from the story and try to recreate it.
- Make a list of some local landmarks. As a class, recreate the game that is on the endpapers into a giant board game that can be played by the entire class. Include some of your local landmarks from your list.